



George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019
(540) 265-5100

FOREST SERVICE CONDUCTING PRESCRIBED FIRE IN BLAND COUNTY

Date: March 8, 2012

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture plans to treat a portion of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests in the Burris Tract area of Bland County with prescribed fire on Thursday, March 8, 2012. The 50-acre treatment area is near the intersection of VA 606 and VA 42 about one mile southwest of the Bland Correctional Center. Ignition should begin in the morning but will be contingent upon weather conditions.

Commitment to human safety is the number one priority.

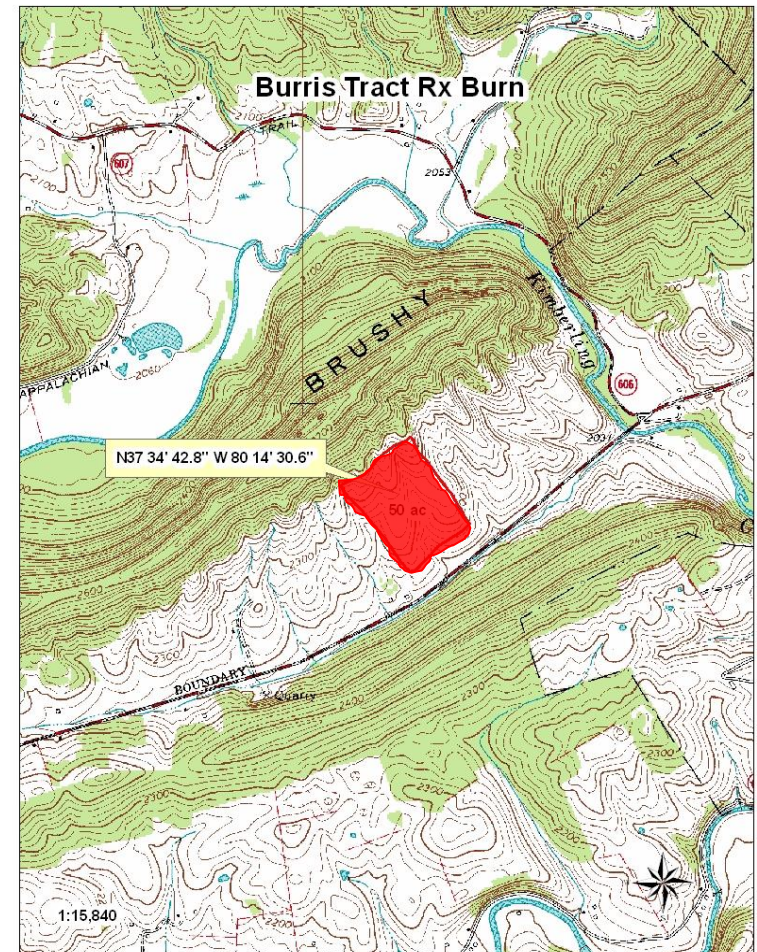
The prescribed burn will:

- Improve wildlife habitat.
- Improve grass/ forbs habitat
- Reduce hazardous fuels.

Firefighters will use handheld drip torches to ignite the burn. Weather conditions should disperse smoke rapidly, however travelers through that area should use caution due to smoke and fire fighter activity.

*For more information, please contact the Eastern Divide Ranger District at
540-552-4641*

-USFS-



The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.